A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE ENGLISH NATION.

Thursday, December 5. 1706.

MY Design in the two last Papers is to prevent the ill Improvement, that several Parties may make in *England* of the Affairs in *Scotland*——— I do not by my Exposition of things allow, that every thing done there is equally right, or with Respect to Time and Circumstances, concerted in the best Measures——And they that think so, may undertake to vindicate the Necessity or Expedience for them; for I profess my self unfit for that Work—— But I think, the Arguments drawn from them in *England*, are both wrong grounded, and unjustly deduced; and on that Head I have been so large, which I hope, no body, that respects the Necessity of setting those things in a true Light, which are studiously mis-represented, will think impertinent.

I have now another Field before me, in which the Kirk of *Scotland* suffers a double Reproach in *England*, and which, tho' it seems to be handed by another Sort of People, yet is turn'd to the Disadvantage of the best meaning People, and the *Protestant* Interest in general, throughout *Scotland*; and that is, That they are indeed at the bottom against the establish'd Succession of *England*, Enemies to the House of *Hannover*, and Friends to the Interest and Family of their late abdicated Monarch.

I do confess, there are some Reasons to wonder at the odd Coherence of things in *Scotland*, and when I see a *Presbyterian*, and a *Roman Catholick*, a Minister of the establish'd Church in *Scotland* and an *Episcopal Dissenter*; Men who are the remotest in their Interest from one another, of any in the World, and not much nearer united in their

their Principles; to ſee thoſe People, I ſay, all joyning in their open Purſuit againſt the Union——Seems to be very ſurprizing, and I confeſs, gives too much Ground for the Suſpicions and Jealouſies, I have been obſerving, are in Peoples Heads on this Account.

But after all, I think, I owe the *Scots* this Juſtice to ſay; that however unhappy this Conjunction ſeems to be in Appearance, and which I muſt own, appears to me to be too much a Teſtimony of the Subtilty of the one, and the Weakneſs of the other; yet there are ſeveral Reaſons, why a Judgment of Charity ſhould be made in Favour of theſe, when the Principles of the other being known and profeſs'd, are leſs hard to judge of, and their Deſigns more plainly pointed out, than any of the reſt.

To argue therefore, that becauſe many of the *Preſbyterians* in *Scotland* are diſſatisfied with the Union, that therefore they are for the Reſtoration of Popery, and King *James* VIII. *as they call him*, is to ſlander them exceedingly; and I muſt do them that Juſtice, as to acknowledge, that even the moſt violent of thoſe *Preſbyterians*, that argue againſt the Union, are yet very hearty in the Oppoſition of the *Jacobite* Intereſt, and this has produc'd a Propoſal in the Parliament, even by thoſe that are againſt the Union, to have the Succeſſion of *Hannover* declared with Limitations.

But as this Scandal is not improv'd in *England* only, but has reached the Perſons concern'd, the Commiſſion of the general Aſſembly in *Scotland* have, I think, vindicated themſelves ſufficiently from theſe Aſperſions, in a Paper ſubſequent to their ſecond Addreſs; in which tho' I do not ſay, there are not ſome things, which at this time of Day I wiſh had been left out, yet I ſhall freely give the World a Sight of the Paper, as a full Defence of the Kirk of *Scotland*, againſt all the Scandals thrown upon them in *England*, of favouring King *James*'s Intereſt.

The Paper was preſented to the Parliament the .... of *November*, and is as follows,

Unto his Grace Her Majeſty's High-Commiſſioner, and the moſt Honourable the Eſtates of Parliament.

The Repreſentation and Petition of the Commiſſion of the general Aſſembly of this National Church of Scotland,

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

" THat notwithſtanding there be many " good Laws made againſt Popery, " Immoralities and other Diſorders; yet " we find our ſelves under a Neceſſity to " repreſent to your Grace and the Eſtates " of Parliament,

" 1. The lamentable Encreaſe of Popery, " which is occaſion'd by the bold and un- " reſtrained Inſolence of trafficking *Popiſh* " Prieſts and Jeſuits; who not only keep " publick Maſs, but meet amongſt them- " ſelves in great Numbers, and *Popiſh* Bi- " ſhops confirming Multitudes of People, " flocking to them avowedly, as if they " were in a *Popiſh* Country, by the Educa- " tion of Children in the Principles of Po- " pery at home and abroad, contrary to " the expreſs Laws of this Nation, and by " the Inter-Marriages of *Proteſtants* and " *Papiſts*.

" That altho', ſince the late Revolution, " Endeavours have been us'd for the ſup- " preſſing of Impiety and Prophaneneſs, " (not altogether without Succeſs) yet the " ſame, and in particular that abominable " Sin of Adultery, do much abound in ma- " ny Parts of the Nation, to the general " Scandal of our Holy Profeſſion, and of " the Reformed Religion.

" 3. And further, that ſome of the Pre- " latick Miniſters have introduc'd a Form " of Worſhip in ſeveral Parts of this King- " dom, which was never in Uſe in this " Church, even under Epiſcopacy, per- " haps to gratifie ſome in a Neighbouring " Church, on which we have no Depend- " ance, and the very attempting whereof " in former Times was deeply reſented by " the Nation. Others intrude upon vacant " Churches, and plant Congregations, in " open Contempt of all Authority Eccleſi- " aſtick and Civil, not only deſpiſing and " trampling upon the Sentences of Suſpen- " ſion and Depoſition by Church-Judica-

" tories,

" tories, and of Deprivation by the Privy-
" Council, but even the Authority of the
" High Court of Parliament it ſelf. It
" were almoſt endleſs to enumerate all the
" Irregularities of ſome of the Epiſcopal
" Miniſters with Reſpect to Marriages, ſome
" marrying Men to other Mens Wives, and
" *è contra*; ſome ante-dating Teſtimonials
" to cover the Sin of Uncleanneſs; yea,
" ſome of them preſume privately to ab-
" ſolve Perſons from Scandals, that are
" under Proceſs before the Church-Judica-
" tories; which Diſorders can be verified
" by particular Inſtances of Perſons, Time
" and Place.

" Which things complained, as they
" have very much increaſed by the palpable
" Omiſſion of the Execution of ſuch Laws,
" and for Want of Laws prohibiting *Prote-*
" *ſtants* to marry with *Papiſts*, and for the
" effectual ſuppreſſing and puniſhing of
" Adulteries; ſo we are fully perſwaded,
" that theſe Meaſures taken by ſome Epiſ-
" copal *Diſſenters*, as well as by *Papiſts*, are
" ſupported and encourag'd by a Party diſ-
" affected to the preſent Eſtabliſhment, and
" to the true Intereſts of the Nation, both
" Sacred and Civil, from the Hopes of a
" *Popiſh* Succeſſor to the Crown.

MAY it therefore pleaſe your Grace, and moſt Honourable Eſtates of Parliament, to take the Premiſes to your ſerious Conſideration, and in your great Wiſdom, to fall upon Methods for reſtraining the above-mentioned Evils, and the more effectual Execution of the good Laws already made, and to enact ſuch new Laws, as You ſhall think there anent; and in particular, that you'll be pleas'd utterly to extinguiſh the Hopes of a Popiſh Succeſſor, and to eſtabliſh the Succeſſion of the Crown in the Proteſtant Line, in ſuch a Way as may be moſt effectual for ſecuring Truth, according to our known and declared Principles, maintaining of the Peace of the Nation, and preventing the above-mention'd Evils for the future.

Sign'd in Name, in Preſence, and at the Appointment of the ſaid Commiſſion of the general Aſſembly, by

Edinb. 14. *Nov.* 1706.

Will. Wiſhart, Moderator.

I cannot but think, that all impartial People will from this time clear the *Scots* from *Jacobite* Principles, I mean, the Kirk Party; and however the Friends of that abdicated Cauſe may think, they ſerve themſelves of theſe Gentlemen, they may find by this Paper, they will be deceiv'd; and I would adviſe the Gentlemen of the ſame ſide in *England*, not to truſt too much to it.

'Tis true, I ſpeak this from a View of the Surface of this Matter, and indeed the Surface of things is, what I am upon only, and it is the Surface of the thing, that ſo much Cry is made; for certainly when *Jacobites* in Parliament proteſt in Behalf of the *Williamites*; when they that never went to the Church in their Lives, and car'd not if She was demoliſh'd to morrow, proteſt in her Behalf for Want of Security, and *adhere, as they call it*, there. When theſe things come upon the Stage, I think, it is all meer Surface, and to look farther into it, would be to oblige my ſelf to enter upon a great many ungrateful and unpleaſant Subjects, which at this time I chooſe to bury in Silence, as I hope, they will ſoon be in the Union of both the Kingdoms.

The preſent Buſineſs is to clear the *Preſbyterian* Church of *Scotland* from the Scandal or rather Slander of being enclin'd to reſtore King *James*'s Family and Poſterity—And I think, I could not have taken a properer Seaſon than this, when their own Repreſentation is their Defence, and teſtifies for them, that thoſe Cenſures are groundleſs and ſcandalous.

Nor do I queſtion, but that this Repreſentation will open the Eyes, even of the *Jacobite* Party themſelves, if any of them were ſo fooliſh as to believe, that becauſe theſe Gentlemen did not immediately fall into the Succeſſion, that therefore they muſt needs be of their ſide.

Indeed ſomething very ſtrange muſt fall out, when the *Presbyterians* reſtore that Race; they reſtor'd one King already in both Kingdoms, for let them ſay what they will to it, 'tis plain, the *Presbyterians* in *Scotland* brought King *Charles* II. in there, as their Brethren in *England* did here, and how both have been treated for it, I leave

to

to the World: But I dare say, nothing of that will encourage them to bring in a *Popish* Race, and put it into the Power of any such Prince to requite them again in the same Manner.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Just Publish'd, in 24°. fit for the Pocket.

A New Description of the World, delineating *Europe*, *Asia*, *Africa*, and *America*; with a Map and Tables of the Empires, Kingdoms, Provinces, and Cities therein; together with a Chronological and Historical Account of the Emperors, Kings, Princes, Governments, Religion, Languages, Customs, Commodities, Revolutions and Rarities thereof. By *Henry Curson*, Gent. Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*.

These are to give Notice,

THat *MARY KIRLEUS*, the Widow of *JOHN KIRLEUS*, Son of Dr. *THO. KIRLEUS*, a Sworn-Physician, in ordinary to King *Charles* II. Sells (rightly prepar'd) his famous Drink and Pills; experienc'd above 50 Years to cure all Ulcers, Sores, Scabs, Itch, Scurf, Scurvies, Leprosies, Running of the Reins, and the most inveterate VENEREAL Disease, with all its attending Symptoms, without Fluxing, Confinement, or destructive Mercurial Preparations: These incomparable Medicines need no Words to express their Virtues; the many miserable Ones that have been happily cured, after given over by others, sufficiently recomend them as the most Sovereign Remedy in the World against all such Malignities; She cures many after Fluxing, and in Compassion to the distressed, will deal according to the Patient's Ability. The Drink is 3 *s.* the Quart, the Pill 1 *s.* the Box with Directions, and Advice *Gratis*.

*** *She lives at the Golden-Ball in Hand-Court, over against great Turn-stile, in Holborn.*

Just Publish'd,

THE *COFFEE-HOUSE* Preachers; or *High-Church* Divinity corrected. Being a Sermon preach'd before the Mayor and Aldermen of *Colchester*, at the Election of a new Mayor for that Town; to the exceeding Reproof and Correction of a *new High-Church Doctrine*, lately maintain'd there by sundry Clergymen of the Church of *England*, to the Eternal Shame and Scandal of their Morals, *Viz. That 'tis lawful to swear by the Name of God in common Discourse, provided the thing be true we swear to.*

With a Prefatory Introduction declaring the occasion of this horrid Assertion, and reciting a former Sermon preach'd on the late Thanksgiving, with the Treatment the Author met with on that occasion. By *William Smithies, Junior*, Rector of St. *Michael Mill-End* in *Colchester*, and Chaplain to the Right Honourable *Edward* Earl of *Sandwich*. Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*.

BArtlet's Invention for the Cure of Ruptures, from the Birth to 60 or 80 Years, the first that found out the true Cause and Cure. With a full and clear Discovery, of the Unaccountable Blunders or Frauds, of both Learned and Vulgar to this Day, especially such as pretend to Cure without a nice Spring Truss to keep in the Guts. At the Golden Ball, by the Tavern in Prescot-street in Good man's Fields. From 8 till 6 at Night, except on the real Christian Sabbath, call'd *Saturday*. I seldom Visit till Seven at Night, (unless the Patient be in Misery or Danger) nor then without a Fee, unless poor.

BY *Sea* or *Land*, the *Venereal Disease* is *Cured* with *Safety*, *Speed*, *Privacy*, *Certainty*, and without *Confinement*, by Dr. *S*——, at the *Golden-Ball*, in *Half-moon-Court* on *Ludgate-Hill*, who has had 12 Years *Experience*, and above 1000 *Patients* in that particular *Disease*, a Box of his *Pills* and 3 *Papers* of *Powder*, with printed *Directions*. Price 7 *s.*